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Title: Regarding enactment of a Law on Parja Patta Rights for Plantation Workers -laid.

SHRI RAJU BISTA (DARJEELING): Even as we celebrate ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’, the tea and cinchona garden workers of Darjeeling hills, Terai and Dooars are forced to continue living a life of servitude under a feudalistic set-up. The British denied our workers Parja Patta rights, succeeding WB Governments have done the same.

In 2019, WB Govt granted 15% of tea garden lands to tea estate owners, making them the biggest landlords in North Bengal. Yet the State Government has refused to give workers their rights.

Much like Forest Rights Act enabling land rights for forest communities across the nation, I request the Union Government to enact a National Law which will guarantee Parja Patta rights for plantation workers.